GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1572
ANSWERED ON:01.08.2001
RACIAL ATTACKS
SAHIB SINGH VERMA

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there had been reports of racial attacks on Asians in England in the recent past;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the estimated damage caused to the People of Indian origin during these attacks; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to safeguard the interest of People of Indian origin?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH)

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. Racial riots have taken place recently in some cities in the United Kingdom such as Oldham, Leeds, Burnley and Bradford involving members of the Asian community, mainly persons of Pakistani and Bangladeshi origin. These riots have involved arson, looting, extensive damage to property and injuries to both members of the public and police officers alike.

(c) There have been reports of damage to some shop fronts and cars owned by persons of Indian-origin during the riots in Bradford.

(d) The Government of the United Kingdom is committed to safeguard interests of all its citizens including those of Indian origin.